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❖ NEW ❖ TESTAMENT ❖ SUPPLEMENT ❖

OF

The Old Testament Student.

INDUCTIVE BIBLE-STUDIES.—SECOND SERIES.

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Forty Studies on the Life of the Christ, based on the Gospel of Mark.

Edited by William R. Harper, Yale University, New Haven.

STUDY XXIX.—THE CRUCIFIXION. MARK 15:16-41.

Résumé of Studies XXV.-XXVIII. 1. Name the chief events covered in these "Studies." 2. The trials of Jesus, their number and character. 3. The significance of the last supper. 4. Lessons from the life and doings of Pilate.

I. The Material Analyzed.

Read carefully Mk. 15:16-41, and be able to make a definite statement concerning each of the following points:

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| 1. Jesus and the soldiers (vs. 16-20a); | 5. the last agonies and death (vs. 33-38); |
| 2. on the way to the cross (vs. 20b-22); | 6. the centurion's testimony (v. 39); |
| 3. Jesus crucified (vs. 23-27); | 7. the spectators (vs. 40,41). |
| 4. revilings (vs. 29-32); | |

II. The Material Compared.

1. With Mk. 15:16-41 compare Mt. 27:27-56; Lk. 23:26-49; John 19:2-37.
2. Notice 1) that Mark's narrative resembles Matthew's much more closely than Luke's or John's; 2) the somewhat fuller, perhaps different, order of events in John 19:1-16; 3) the verbal disagreement, with the substantial identity, of the four reports of the superscription; Mk. 15:26; Mt. 27:37; Lk. 23:38; John 19:19.
3. The student would find it interesting and helpful to draw up from the four accounts a complete list of the circumstances and events gathering about the crucifixion.

III. The Material Explained.

1. TEXTUAL TOPICS AND QUESTIONS.

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| 1) V. 16. | (a) <i>Prætorium</i> ; a Latin word, adopted in Greek, signifying the "headquarters" of the governor. | 18:3), the number would be about six hundred. |
| | (b) <i>The whole band</i> ; if taken exactly (but see same word in John | 2) V. 18. <i>Began to salute</i> ; i. e., "went to saluting." |

- 3) V. 19. *Smote*; lit. "kept smiting;" so "did spit," "worshiped;" signifying continued actions.
- 4) Vs. 16-19. (a) Compare with Mk. 14:65 (Lk. 22: 63-65) in (1) the persons; (2) their purpose and spirit; (3) their guilt. (b) Note that (1) this could only have been done with Pilate's permission, and (2) his purpose in permitting it is to arouse sympathy in the people. Cf. John 19:4,5. *Father of A. and R.*; (a) a phrase peculiar to Mark; (b) probable that these were Christians when this was written; (c) cf. Rom. 16:13; (d) then did Simon become a Christian after his sons?
- 5) V. 21. (a) *Bring him*; i. e. Jesus had to be supported. (b) *Place of a skull*; (1) Latin "Calvaria" = "Calvary"; (2) two views about the meaning of this phrase; (3) the views as to the location?
- 6) V. 22. (a) *Offered*; for what purpose? (b) *Received it not*; why?
- 7) V. 23. *Crucify*; let the student make real to himself the method of crucifying and the suffering of the crucified.
- 8) V. 24. *Third hour*; i. e. nine o'clock. Cf. John 19:14 and seek to explain the difference.
- 9) V. 25. *He saved*; i. e. "helped," "healed." What is the point of the sarcasm?
- 10) V. 31. *Reproached*; lit. "kept reproaching"; so "railed" (v. 29), "said" (v. 31).
- 11) V. 32. (a) *Darkness*; how explained (1) as supernatural, yet (2) connected with the not uncommon darkness that precedes an earthquake (cf. Mt. 27:51)? (3) Its purpose? (b) *The whole land*; (1) that region, or (2) half the world?
- 12) V. 33. *Eloi*, etc.; (a) What language? (b) Quoted from Ps. 22:1; (c) its meaning for Jesus?
- 13) V. 34. Was this (a) a misunderstanding, or (b) a mocking jest?
- 14) V. 35. *Loud voice*; for what he said, cf. Lk. 23:46.
- 15) V. 36. *Veil....rent*; (a) how? (1) physical basis, Mt. 27:51; (2) a supernatural purpose; (b) its significance, (1) abandonment of the temple by God; (2) unhindered access of man to God; (3) all this in view of the death of Jesus.

2. GENERAL TOPICS.

- 1) **The Woman-Friends of Jesus.** Vs. 40,41. (a) Observe the frequent allusions in the Gospels to the presence of women among the hearers of Jesus; (1) those who came into some temporary relations to him, cf. John 4:7 sq.; 8:3 sq.; 11:1 sq.; Mk. 1:30; 5:25; 7:25; 14:3; Lk. 7:11-17,36-50; 10:38-42; 13:11 sq.; 18:15; 23:27; Mt. 20:20; (2) those who became permanent disciples, cf. Lk. 8:2,3; (b) of the latter note the references to (1) Mary Magdalene, her home, whether identical with the woman of Lk. 7:37; her character, John 20:11-17; (2) Salome, her probable relation to Jesus, cf. Mt. 27:56; John 19:25; (3) Mary, his mother, her relations to Jesus; (c) the Jewish idea as to the position of women and Jesus' attitude toward it, cf. John 4:27; (d) woman in the early church, Acts 1:14; 9:36; 12:12, etc.
- 2) **The Meaning of the Death of Jesus.** (a) Recall Jesus' prophecies of his death, Mk. 8:31; 9:31; 10:33,34; (b) note his hints as to its purpose and meaning, Mk. 10:45; 14:22-24; John 6:51; 12:32,33, etc.; (c) examine the apostolic teaching, cf. 1 Pet. 1:19; Tit. 2:14; 1 Tim. 2:6; 2 Cor. 5:15; Gal. 3:13; 1 John 1:7; (d) grasp firmly the *fact* of the "vicarious" death (atonement) of Jesus and then observe the theories which seek to explain it, (1) the moral influence exerted by his death; (2) in Jesus' death God illustrated his character as a moral governor by giving his Son to be punished for sinners; (3) in Jesus' death for sinners God vindicated his righteous character and became reconciled to man, when his Son suffered the penalty of law.

IV. The Material Organized.

1. *Gather the material* and classify it under the following heads: 1) persons; 2) places; 3) important events; 4) habits and customs; 5) important teachings; 6) literary data; 7) miracles.
2. *Condense the material*, Mk. 15:16-41, into the briefest possible statement, under the general topic of *The Death of a King*.

V. The Material Applied.

THE DEATH OF JESUS. The most fitting application of this material will be found in the thoughtful contemplation of the biblical narrative. The fol-

lowing points are suggested: 1. Dwell on the following characteristics of Jesus as illustrated here, 1) heroism; 2) forgivingness, Lk. 23:34; 3) patience; 4) pity; 5) human feelings of anguish; 6) love, John 19:26,27. 2. Observe that this suffering and death is foreseen and endured with a consciousness of its being a sacrifice made on behalf of others. 3. Thoughtfully inquire into the obligation which this self-sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf lays upon us.

STUDY XXX.—BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS. MARK 15:42–16:8.

Résumé. 1. Give as complete as possible an account of the events attending the crucifixion of Jesus. 2. The significance of the conduct and words of Jesus in this event.

I. The Material Analyzed.

Read carefully Mk. 15:42–16:8, and be able to make a definite statement concerning each of the following points:

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| 1. The request of Joseph (15:42,43); | 6. visitors to the tomb (16:2–4); |
| 2. Pilate's reply (15:44,45); | 7. the young man within (16:5); |
| 3. the burial (15:46); | 8. his word (16:6,7); |
| 4. the spectators (15:47); | 9. the result (16:8). |
| 5. the women's purchase (16:1); | |

II. The Material Compared.

- With Mk. 15:42–16:8 compare Mt. 27:57–28:15; Lk. 23:50–24:12; John 19:38–20:10, and make lists of the events in each account.
- Take the passages in each which are parallel with those in Mark, i. e. with Mk. 15:42–47, Mt. 27:57–61; Lk. 23:50–56; John 19:38–42—with Mk. 16:1–8, Mt. 28:1–8; Lk. 24:1–11; John 20:1,2.
- Now observe the additional events given in Mt. 27:62–66; 28:8–10,11–15; Lk. 24:12; John 20:3–10.
- Note two methods of dealing with these accounts of the resurrection: 1) to attempt to harmonize them, or 2) to regard them as independent and fragmentary and as such incapable of being harmonized; while 3) all bear clear witness to the *fact* of the resurrection. †

III. The Material Explained.

1. TEXTUAL TOPICS AND QUESTIONS.

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| 1) V. 42. <i>Even</i> ; before the coming of the Sabbath, however. | 5) 16:1. <i>Sabbath was past</i> ; i. e. at sunset of Saturday. |
| 2) V. 43. <i>Councillor</i> ; i. e. a member of the sanhedrim.
<i>That is, the day</i> , etc.; peculiar to Mark and characteristic.
<i>Of-honorable-estate</i> ; lit. "of good form;" i. e. "influential."
<i>Looking for the Kingdom</i> , etc.; not meaning necessarily a disciple of Jesus, but cf. John 19:38.
<i>Boldly went in</i> ; better, "grew-bold and went-in," in contrast with previous timidity. | 6) V. 3. <i>Said</i> ; lit. "were-saying."
7) V. 4. <i>For it was</i> , etc.; the reason (a) for the question of v. 3, or (b) that the stone had to be rolled rather than lifted or otherwise moved, or (c) that they could not fail to see. |
| 3) V. 46. Learn something of Jewish burial customs; cf. also Mk. 16:1. | 8) V. 5. (a) Notice the details peculiar to Mark.
(b) <i>Young man</i> ; cf. Mt. 28:5. |
| 4) V. 47. <i>Beheld</i> ; lit. "were-beholding," i. e. were looking on while the burial was taking place. | 9) V. 7. (a) <i>And Peter</i> ; (1) how characteristic of Mark? (2) Why thus emphasize his name?
(b) <i>There shall ye see him</i> ; cf. 1 Cor. 15:6; Mt. 28:16.
(c) <i>As he said</i> ; cf. Mk. 14:28. |
| | 10) V. 8. <i>Said nothing</i> ; i. e. on their way to the disciples. |